

Daly, John

John W. Daly (1933–2008)

John Daly, Ph.D., was a world-renowned leader in natural products, chemical ecology, biological chemistry, and pharmacology. Many of his discoveries came from his own adventures in the rainforests of Central and South America, Australia and Madagascar, isolating, for example, the biologically active compounds from the skin of poisonous tree frogs. He found that one of these alkaloids, epibatidine, is 200 times more effective than morphine as a painkiller. During the 1980s, Daly was among the 100 most-cited scientists worldwide. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1997.

The Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum has gathered the following resources concerning Dr. Daly:

NIH Publications:

- [Memorial service announcement in NIH Record, 2008](#) (PDF, 80 kB)
- [Description of frog studies in NIH Record, 2002](#) (PDF, 301 kB)
- [Celebration of career in NIH Record, 1998](#) (PDF, 157 kB)
- [Announcement of appointment to Section on Pharmacodynamics in NIH Record, 1969](#) (PDF, 14.1 mB)

Journal Publications:

- [Tribute by Richard W. Fitch and Carole A. Bewley in Journal of Natural Products, 2010](#) (PDF, 103 kB)
- [Tribute by H. Martin Garraffo in Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology, 2009](#) (PDF, 109 kB)
- [Tribute by Juan M. Saavedra in Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology, 2009](#) (PDF, 117 kB)
- [Tribute by Kenneth A. Jacobson and Kenneth L. Kirk in Heterocycles, 2009](#) (PDF, 1.3 mB)
- [Technical explanation of work by Bertil B. Fredholm and Kenneth A. Jacobson, 2009](#) (PDF, 350 kB)
- [Biography by Kenneth L. Kirk and Fabian Gusovsky in Heterocycles, 2008](#) (PDF, 57 kB)

Non-journal Publications:

- [Obituary by American Chemical Society, 2008](#) (PDF, 149 kB)
- [Mentioned in article on rain forest harvesting in New York Times, 1999](#) (PDF, 576 kB)



John Daly National Institutes of Health